JL:TMM

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF ARREST WARRANT

- against -

PABLO BURGOS,
also known as "Popo" and
DESERAE RICHARDSON,
also known as "Deserae Burgos,"

(21 U.S.C. § 846)

Defendants.

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EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, SS:

ANTON C. KOHUT, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is a Special Agent of the United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA"), duly appointed according to law and acting as such.

Upon information and belief, on or about and between November 2008 and September 2010, both dates being approximate and inclusive, within the Eastern District of New York and elsewhere, the defendants PABLO BURGOS, also known as "Popo," and DESERAE RICHARDSON, also known as "Deserae Burgos," together with others, did knowingly and intentionally conspire to distribute and possess with intent to distribute a substance

containing oxycodone, a Schedule II controlled substance, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1).

(Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.)

The source of your affiant's information and the grounds for his belief are as follows:

- I am a "federal law enforcement officer" within the meaning of Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 41(a)(2)(c), that is, a government agent engaged in enforcing the criminal laws and duly authorized by the Attorney General to request an arrest warrant. I have been an agent with DEA since 1998. I have participated in hundreds of investigations of unlawful drug distribution and have conducted or participated in surveillance, undercover transactions, the execution of search warrants, debriefings of informants and reviews of taped conversations and drug records. Through my training, education and experience, I have become familiar with the manner in which drugs are acquired, transported, stored and distributed, and the methods of payment for such drugs.
- 2. I have personally participated in the investigation of the offenses discussed below. I am familiar with the facts and circumstances of this investigation from: (a)

Because this affidavit is submitted for the limited purpose of establishing probable cause for an arrest warrant, I have not set forth each and every fact learned during the course of the investigation.

my personal participation in this investigation, (b) reports
made to me by other law enforcement authorities, (c) information
obtained from confidential sources of information and
cooperating witnesses and (d) prescription drug records received
from the New York State Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement.

- 3. Since 2010, DEA agents have been investigating a drug trafficking organization that obtains prescriptions for pharmaceutical controlled substances, including oxycodone, and then sells and distributes the oxycodone in the Eastern District of New York and elsewhere.
- 4. During the course of the investigation, DEA received information from a pharmacist about fraudulent oxycodone prescriptions that individuals were attempting to fill at various pharmacies throughout Long Island. Based on this information, DEA separately debriefed two confidential witness (hereinafter "CW1"<sup>2</sup> and "CW2,"<sup>3</sup> collectively "CWs") regarding the oxycodone prescriptions. Information provided by the CWs has proven to be reliable and been independently corroborated by physical evidence.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> CW1 has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute oxycodone and conspiracy to obtain oxycodone by fraud, pursuant to a cooperation agreement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> CW2 has entered into a non-prosecution agreement with the government.

- 5. In sum and substance, the CWs individually advised

  DEA agents that, during 2008 and 2009, the CWs were engaged in

  obtaining large quantities of oxycodone pills for defendants

  PABLOS BURGOS, also known as "Popo," and his live-in girlfriend,

  DESERAE RICHARDSON, also known as "Deserae Burgos," who were

  engaged in the distribution of oxycodone.
- 6. The CWs further advised DEA agents, in sum and substance, that they were both recruited by defendants BURGOS and RICHARDSON in 2008. During this meeting, BURGOS told the CWs how they could assist BURGOS and RICHARDSON to obtain oxycodone pills. In sum and substance, defendant BURGOS told the CWs to provide him with the names and accompanying medical benefit information for individuals who could be used to obtain prescriptions for oxycodone. Once BURGOS had that information, he would have prescriptions filled out containing the individuals' names and medical benefit information, upon which CW1 or CW2 would have the prescription filled at a local pharmacy. Once a prescription for oxycodone was filled, the CWs would give the oxycodone pills to BURGOS.
- 7. During that same meeting, defendant RICHARDSON told the CWs, in sum and substance, that she was also involved with obtaining prescriptions for oxycodone and had prescriptions filled in her own name and that of family members.

- 8. CW2 advised DEA agents that, shortly after this meeting, his/her health insurance and name was used to fill prescriptions for oxycodone on behalf of defendants BURGOS and RICHARDSON. CW2 further advised that he/she supplied the names of other individuals and their respective insurance information to CW1 who then passed that information to defendants BURGOS and RICHARDSON so that prescriptions for oxycodone pills could also be filled.
- 9. During the course of this investigation, DEA agents obtained records from the New York State Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement regarding the number of fraudulent oxycodone prescriptions written in the name of CW2 and the names of the individuals CW2 had ultimately provided (hereinafter "Individual 1" and "Individual 2," respectively). During the six month period between November 2008 and April 2009, six oxycodone prescriptions were filled each containing a quantity of 60 tablets of oxycodone. These prescriptions are as follows:

| NYS<br>Prescription | Prescription<br>Name | Date Written | Number of<br>Pills | Mg per Pill |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Number              |                      |              | Prescribed         |             |
| 0K2BT938            | CW2                  | 11/2/08      | 60                 | 80 mg       |
| 0K2BTH76            | CW2                  | 1/25/09      | 60                 | 80 mg       |
| 0K2BTK32            | CW2                  | 3/17/09      | 60                 | 80 mg       |
| 0K2BTC04            | CW2                  | 4/21/09      | 60                 | 80 mg       |
| 0K2BTC18            | Individual 1         | 4/15/09      | 60                 | 80 mg       |
| 0K2BTC03            | Individual 2         | 4/13/09      | 60                 | 80 mg       |

10. CW1 advised DEA agents that he/she also provided defendant BURGOS and RICHARDSON with the names and medical benefit information of two individuals (hereinafter "Individual 3" and "Individual 4," respectively). CW1 further advised DEA agents, in sum and substance, that he/she would drop off prescriptions for oxycodone at local pharmacies located within the Eastern District of New York and then pick up filled prescriptions at the behest of defendant BURGOS. CW1 would then deliver these oxycodone pills to defendant BURGOS, usually at the home of defendants BURGOS and RICHARDSON. During the course of this investigation, DEA agents obtained records from the New York State Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement regarding the number of fraudulent oxycodone prescriptions written in the names of Individual 3 and Individual 4, whose names and medical benefit information CW1 had provided to defendants BURGOS and RICHARDSON. During the six month period between November 2008 and April 2009, a total of six oxycodone prescriptions were filled in the names of Individual 3 and Individual 4, respectively, each containing a quantity of 60 tablets of oxycodone. These prescriptions are as follows:

| NYS<br>Prescription<br>Number | Prescription<br>Name | Date Written | Number of<br>Pills<br>Prescribed | Mg per Pill |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 0K2BTH10                      | Individual 3         | 11/11/08     | 60                               | 80 mg       |
| 0K2BTM71                      | Individual 3         | 1/25/09      | 60                               | 80 mg       |

| vidual 3 4/24/09    | 60                | 80 mg                |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| vidual 4   11/15/08 | 60                | 80 mg                |
| ridual 4 1/25/09    | 60                | 80 mg                |
|                     | ridual 4 11/15/08 | ridual 4 11/15/08 60 |

All twelve of the prescriptions delineated above were written by the same prescriber.

- that on one occasion, he/she accompanied defendants BURGOS and RICHARDSON, to the prescriber's office. While CW1 waited in the car with defendant RICHARDSON, defendant BURGOS went into the prescriber's office. After a few moments, defendant BURGOS returned to the car with 20 to 30 prescriptions in his hand. Defendant BURGOS provided CW1 with a few of the prescriptions from that stack so that CW1 could have those prescriptions filled for oxycodone. CW1 further advised DEA agents, in sum and substance, that on at least one occasion, he/she delivered filled prescriptions of oxycodone pills to defendants BURGOS and RICHARDSON in their car.
- 12. During the course of the investigation, DEA agents interviewed Individual 3 who advised agents, in sum and substance, that he/she allowed CW1 to provide his/her name and insurance information to defendant BURGOS for the purpose of having prescriptions written for oxycodone.

- 13. Based on my experience and training, during 2008 and 2009, one 80 mg pill of oxycodone had a retail street value of approximately \$80.
- On September 8, 2010, after conducting surveillance of the residence of defendants BURGOS and RICHARDSON at 3 Southwood Lane, Amityville, New York (hereinafter "the residence"), DEA agents approached defendant BURGOS and asked permission to search the residence. Defendant BURGOS verbally consented and signed a DEA Consent to Search form. A subsequent search of the residence resulted in the seizure of several items, including a marijuana plant, a 12-gauge shot gun, 149 sham 80 mg oxycodone pills, and at least 40 New York State prescriptions on a prescription pad bearing the names of two physicians at a hospital. Approximately another five to seven prescriptions from that New York State prescription pad were already partially filled in with names for patients seeking oxycodone. Among these names, at least one individual is believed by the DEA agents involved in this investigation to be a relative of defendant RICHARDSON.
- 15. The search of the residence also revealed a single prescription from the office of the doctor who was the prescriber of the prescriptions written in the names of CW2 and Individuals 1 through 4 described above. DEA agents also recovered a document (hereinafter "the document") listing the

names of twenty individuals along with their addresses and dates of birth. Next to many of the names of these individuals are the names and locations of pharmacies located within the Eastern District of New York. Some of the names listed on the document are believe by the DEA agents to be relatives of defendant RICHARDSON's family, as well as a few of the names that had been provided to defendants BURGOS and RICHARDSON by CW1 and CW2.

- prescriptions detailed above, defendant BURGOS made the following consensual statements to DEA agents in the presence of defendant RICHARDSON. Defendant BURGOS stated, in sum and substance, that he would receive prescriptions for oxycodone from a supplier and then bring the prescriptions to local pharmacies to have them filled. Defendant BURGOS usually paid cash for the pills. Defendant BURGOS further stated, in sum and substance, that he would then meet with his supplier and provide his supplier with the oxycodone pills. In return, the supplier would pay defendant BURGOS between \$800.00 to \$1,000.00 for each prescription filled.
- 17. Subsequent to the search, DEA agents also interviewed one of the physicians whose names were listed on the seized prescription pad. The physician informed DEA agents that a prescription pad was stolen from his office in early 2010. This physician further advised DEA agents, in sum and substance, that

none of the names written on the missing prescription pad were his/her patients and that he/she does not prescribe oxycodone to patients.

WHEREFORE, your affiant requests that the Court issue an arrest warrant for the defendants PABLO BURGOS, also known as "Popo," and DESERAE RICHARDSON, also known as "Deserae Burgos," so that they may be dealt with according to law.

ANTON C. KOHUT Special Agent

DEA

Sworn to before me this 6th day of June 2012